

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 633
By McLeary

A RESOLUTION to congratulate the staff, volunteers, and patrons of the Mildred G. Fields Public Library of the City of Milan upon the occasion of its 60th anniversary.

WHEREAS, it is the privilege of this General Assembly to recognize those public institutions of learning and culture that are celebrating milestones in their venerable history; and

WHEREAS, the Mildred G. Fields Public Library is one such praiseworthy institution, which has served as a place of learning and enrichment for the good people of Milan for 60 years; and

WHEREAS, established in 1946, the Milan Public Library was opened initially as a deposit station within the high school; with Mrs. G. H. Dickey serving as its volunteer librarian, the library was first relocated to the community center and then to a back room in City Hall where it filled all of two book shelves; and

WHEREAS, assuming responsibility as librarian in 1954, Mrs. Mildred G. Fields saw the library leave City Hall and move to the Baldwin Building in 1960 and then to a location on Circle Drive in 1961; and

WHEREAS, relocating numerous times in the following decades, the library was located in the former Caldwell Home on Main Street for a time before moving to the old high school cafeteria and then on to the old theatre building downtown that formerly housed McKelvy Furniture; and

WHEREAS, in 1981, the library was finally located in the newly constructed building on Van Hook Street along with the Senior Citizens wing and appropriately dedicated to the late Mrs. Mildred G. Fields; and

WHEREAS, having originally assumed the role of voluntary librarian, the late Mrs. Mildred G. Fields served as librarian from 1954 until 1971, when Mrs. Carol Turner became the librarian; and

WHEREAS, upon the retirement of Mrs. Turner in 1985, Mrs. Dot Bruce assumed the role of head librarian and is currently Director of the Mildred G. Fields Public Library of the City of Milan, which now has three full-time and four part-time employees, two aides, and a host of volunteers; and

WHEREAS, over the years, the library collection has grown from its two book shelves and annual circulation of almost 1,200 books to a wonderful facility, offering 22 public use computers and an annual circulation rate of more than 100,000 items; and

WHEREAS, on Tuesday, April 4, 2006, the Mildred G. Fields Public Library staff, volunteers, and patrons will mark the 60th anniversary of this extraordinary library, celebrating its immeasurable contributions to the citizenry of Milan and the surrounding area; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause in their deliberations to acknowledge and applaud one of Tennessee's exemplary public institutions, the Mildred G. Fields Public Library, upon the occasion of its 60th anniversary; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby join with the people of Milan in celebrating the 60th anniversary of the Mildred G. Fields Public Library, recognizing its indelible contributions to the lives of the citizens of Milan, and express our deep appreciation to the past and current staff, aides, and volunteers of the Mildred G. Fields Public Library for their meritorious service.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.